

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/989,376

Examiner

Vu B. Hang

Applicant(s)

OKADA, KOICHI

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication filed on 07/09/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 06/13/2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TWYLEE LAMB
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

- This office action is responsive to the communication filed on 07/09/2007.
- The drawings received on 11/21/2001 are accepted.
- New Claims 24-28 received on 07/09/2007 have been entered and made of record.
- Claims 1-28 are pending in the application.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 07/09/2007, with respect to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stephenson (US Patent 5,140,340) in view of Ui (US Patent 6,340,984 B1), have been fully considered and are persuasive. The previous rejections of Claims 1-23 have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-28 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- The prior art of record does not teach, disclose or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other limitations in the claim), "an image recording apparatus comprising: an image-recording unit which records an image on an image recording material; a transporting unit, which transports the image recording material whose shape has at least one side in a predetermined transporting direction; a position detecting unit for the image recording material which detects a position of the image recording material in the at least one side along the predetermined transporting direction; a reference storage unit storing a corresponding

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relationship between the position detecting unit and the image recording unit; and an image recording position correction unit which allows the image recording unit to correct an image recording position for the image recording material by referencing the corresponding relationship stored in the reference storage unit and based on result of detection of the position of the image recording material in at least one side by the position detecting unit so that the image can be recorded correctly at a position to be recorded on the image recording material transported as it is by the transporting unit without correcting the detected position of the image recording material; wherein the desired image is recorded on the image recording material at the corrected image recording position by the image-recording unit, as claimed in **Claim 1**. Similar features are claimed in Claims 2-28. Therefore, **Claims 2-28** are allowable over the prior art of record for the same reasons.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vu B. Hang whose telephone number is (571) 272-0582. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00am - 6:00pm.

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6. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached on (571) 272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Vu Hang
Assistant Examiner



TWYLER LAMB
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER